# New QES Hermitian as well as non-Hermitian PT invariant Potentials

Avinash Khare and Bhabani Prasad Mandal
Institute of Physics, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar-751005, India and
Department of Physics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005, India

We start with quasi-exactly solvable (QES) Hermitian (and hence real) as well as complex PT-invariant, double sinh-Gordon potential and show that even after adding perturbation terms, the resulting potentials, in both cases, are still QES potentials. Further, by using anti-isospectral transformations, we obtain Hermitian as well as PT-invariant complex QES periodic potentials. We study in detail the various properties of the corresponding Bender-Dunne polynomials.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, various features of the complex PT-symmetric Hamiltonians have been explored in the literature, see for example Refs. [1–4]. In particular, it has been shown that so long as the PT-symmetry is not spontaneously broken, then the energy eigenvalues of the Schrödinger equation are real. Further, several PT-symmetric complex QES[5, 6] potentials have been discovered [8–10]. The purpose of this paper is to point out that even after suitably perturbing either a Hermitian or a complex PT-invariant QES potential, one can still obtain another Hermitian or complex, PT-invariant, QES potential.

## II. PT SYMMETRIC NON-HERMITIAN QES SYSTEM

#### A. The Model

We start from the well known non-Hermitian but PT-invariant potential  $-[a\cosh(2x)-iM)^2$ ,  $(\hbar=1=2m)$  [8] and show that even the perturbed complex PT-invariant Hamiltonian

$$H = p^{2} - \left[a\cosh(2x) - iM\right]^{2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^{2}(x)} - \frac{l(l+1)}{\cosh^{2}(x)},$$
(2.1)

where a, l, M are real and -1 < l < 0 is a QES potential so long as M-2l-1 or M+2l+1 is a positive even integer. Note, the restriction -1 < l < 0 has been imposed so that the potential is not too singular at x = 0 and there is a communication from the left side to the right side.

Let us first show that the above non-Hermitian Hamiltonian (2.1) is a PT-symmetric one. We note that in this case the parity transformation is defined as  $x \longrightarrow i\frac{\pi}{2} - x$ , which is reflection of coordinate about the point  $x = i\frac{\pi}{4}$ . Under the time reversal transformation  $t \longrightarrow -t$  and further, one replaces  $i \longrightarrow -i$ . One can check easily that, under PT  $\cosh(2x) \longrightarrow -\cosh(2x)$ ,  $\cosh^2(x) \longrightarrow -\sinh^2(x)$  and  $\sinh^2(x) \longrightarrow -\cosh^2(x)$ .

We substitute

$$\psi(x) = e^{i\frac{a}{2}\cosh(2x)}\phi(x) \tag{2.2}$$

in the Schrödinger equation  $H\psi = E\psi$  with the H given by Eq. (2.1) and obtain

$$\phi''(x) + 2ia \sinh(2x)\phi'(x) + [(E - M^2 + a^2) - 2i(M - 1)a \cosh(2x) - \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)} + \frac{l(l+1)}{\cosh^2(x)}]\phi(x) = 0$$

On further substituting

$$\phi = [\cosh(x)]^{\alpha} [\sinh(x)]^{\beta} \eta(x), \qquad (2.3)$$

we find that the system admits non-singular QES solutions provided

$$\alpha(\alpha+1) = l(l+1) \text{ and } \beta(\beta+1) = l(l+1)$$
(2.4)

is satisfied. The condition in Eq. (2.4) implies either of the following four conditions i.e.

$$\text{(i) }\alpha=\beta=l+1\text{ (ii) }\alpha=\beta=-l\text{ (iii) }\alpha=-l,\beta=l+1\text{ (iv) }\alpha=l+1,\beta=-l.$$

We discuss all the cases separately,

Case (i): 
$$\alpha = \beta = l + 1$$
,

In this case,  $\eta(x)$  as given by Eq. (2.3) can be shown to satisfy

$$\eta''(x) + 2[(l+1)\coth(x) + (l+1)\tanh(x) + ia\sinh(2x)]\eta'(x)$$
  
+  $\left[\epsilon - iza\cosh^2(x)\right]\eta(x) = 0$ , (2.5)

where

$$\epsilon = E - M^2 + a^2 + 4(l+1)^2 - 2ia(2l - M + 3)$$

$$z = 4(M - 2l - 3). \tag{2.6}$$

This system has p QES solutions in case M-2l-1=2p with  $p=1,2,3,\cdots$ . These solutions are of the form

$$\eta(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(i)^n [\cosh 2(x)]^n , \qquad (2.7)$$

Two of the low lying solutions are

$$M = 2l + 3$$
,  $\eta = constant$ ,  $E = -a^2 + 4l + 5$ , (2.8)

$$M = 2l + 5$$
,  $\eta = A \cosh(2x) + iB$ ,  $\frac{A}{B} = \frac{E + a^2 - 12l - 21}{4a}$ ,  $E = 8l + 15 - a^2 \pm \sqrt{(2l+3)^2 - 4a^2}$ . (2.9)

Note that since  $\alpha = \beta$  the PT symmetry is unbroken and hence, as expected, the energy eigenvalues are real.

Case (ii): 
$$\alpha = \beta = -l$$
.

The solutions in this case can be obtained from the solutions of case (i) by everywhere changing  $l \longrightarrow -l-1$ . Thus in this case, one has p QES solutions in case M+2l+1=2p with  $p=1,2,3,\cdots$ . Note that since  $\alpha=\beta$ , even in this case, the PT symmetry is unbroken and the energy eigenvalues are real.

Case (iii): 
$$\alpha = -l$$
,  $\beta = l + 1$ .

In this case we have p QES solutions in case  $M=2p,\,p=1,2,\cdots$ . Two of the low lying QES solutions are

$$M = 2, \quad E = 3 - a^2 - 2ai(1+2l),$$
 (2.10)

$$M = 4$$
,  $E = 11 - a^2 - 2ai(1+2l) \pm \sqrt{(1-a^2) - ia(1+2l)}$ . (2.11)

Note that since in this case  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , hence the PT symmetry is broken spontaneously and eigenvalues are no more real. In the special case of  $\alpha = \beta = \frac{1}{2}$ , the PT symmetry is restored and E becomes real.

Case (iv): In this case, the solutions can simply be obtained from the solutions of the case (iii) by changing  $l \longrightarrow -l - 1$ .

Ordinarily, the boundary conditions that give the quantized energy levels are  $\psi(x) \to 0$  as  $|x| \to \infty$  on the real axis. However, in the present case, we have to continue the eigenvalue problem into the complex -x plane[6]. On putting, x = u + iv where u and

v are real, it is easy to see that for u > 0 the boundary condition is satisfied so long as  $-\pi < v < -\frac{\pi}{2} \pmod{\pi}$  while for u < 0 it is satisfied if  $-\frac{\pi}{2} < v < 0 \pmod{\pi}$ 

It is worth mentioning that, the non-Hermitian PT symmetric Hamiltonian in Eq. (2.1) after a suitable change of variable can be expressed in terms of the SL(2, R) generators ( at most quadratic). To show this we substitute  $t = \cosh(2x)$  in the Eq. (2.5) to obtain  $H_g \eta = E \eta$  where,

$$H_g = -4(t^2 - 1)\frac{d^2}{dt^2} - [(8l + 12)t + 4ai(t^2 - 1)]\frac{d}{dt} - [-M^2 + a^2 + 4(l+1)^2 - 2ai(2l - M + 3) - \frac{iz}{2}(t+1)](2.12)$$

This gauged Hamiltonian then can be expressed in terms of the generators of the SL(2,R) by

$$H_g = -4[(J_0^2 - J_-^2) + ia(J_+ - J_-) + (n+2l+2)J_0] - [-M^2 + a^2 + 4(l+1)^2 + 4n(l+1) + n^2]$$
(2.13)

while the generators are given by  $J_{-} = \frac{d}{dt}$ ,  $J_{0} = t\frac{d}{dt} - \frac{n}{2}$  and  $J_{+} = t^{2}\frac{d}{dt} - nt$ . Gauged Hamiltonian in terms of SL(2,R) for a more general system has been discussed in Ref. [7].

## B. Bender-Dunne (BD) Polynomials

Case (i):  $\alpha = l + 1 = \beta$ . We make a change of variable in Eq.(2.5),  $\cosh^2(x) = t$ , yielding

$$t(t-1)\eta''(t) - [(l+3/2) - (2l+3-2ia)t - 2iat^{2}]\eta'(t) +$$

$$+(1/4)[\epsilon - iazt]\eta(t) = 0$$
(2.14)

On further substituting

$$\eta(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{P_n(\epsilon)t^n}{n!\Gamma(n+l+3/2)},$$
(2.15)

yields the three-term recursion relation satisfied by the polynomials,  $P_n(\epsilon)$ 

$$P_{n+1}(\epsilon) - \left[\frac{\epsilon}{4} + n(n+2l+2-2ia)\right]P_n(\epsilon) + ia(n+l+1/2)n[M-2l-2n-1]P_{n-1}(\epsilon) = 0.$$
 (2.16)

First few Polynomials are:

$$P_{0}(\epsilon) = 1,$$

$$P_{1}(\epsilon) = \frac{\epsilon}{4}$$

$$P_{2}(\epsilon) = \frac{\epsilon^{2}}{16} + \frac{\epsilon}{4}(2l + 3 - 2ia) + ia(l + \frac{3}{2})(2l + 3 - M)$$
(2.17)

For the case, M = 2l+3,  $P_1(\epsilon)$  is the critical Polynomial[11]. On demanding  $P_1(\epsilon) = 0$  correctly yields the QES energy eigenvalue as given by Eq. (2.8). On the other hand, for M = 2l+5,  $P_2(\epsilon)$  is the critical Polynomial, and demanding  $P_2(\epsilon) = 0$  correctly yields the QES energy as given by Eq. (2.9).

Following Bender and Dunne [11], it is easy to compute the norm  $(\gamma_n)$  of the n-th polynomial. We find

$$\gamma_n = (4ai)^n n! \prod_{k=1}^n (k+l+1/2)(M-2k-2l-1)$$
(2.18)

Weight factors ( $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$ )[11], for M=2l+5 are

$$\omega_1 = \frac{2l+3-2ai}{\sqrt{(2l+3)^2-4a^2}} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\omega_2 = -\frac{2l+3-2ai}{\sqrt{(2l+3)^2-4a^2}} + \frac{1}{2}$$
(2.19)

Moments of weight function is defined by

$$\mu_n = \int dE \omega(E) E^n \tag{2.20}$$

It is easily shown that the *n*-th moment, for large n, is proportional to  $(M+a^2)^n$ .

One can similarly study the properties of the Bender-Dunne polynomials in the other three cases.

### III. PERIODIC PT INVARIANT QES SYSTEM

As has been shown in [13], if under the anti-isospectral transformation  $x \longrightarrow ix \equiv y$ , the potential  $v(x) \longrightarrow \bar{v}(y)$  and if the potential v(x) has m QES levels with energy

eigenvalue and eigenfunctions  $E_k$   $(k = 0, 1, 2 \cdots m - 1)$  and  $\psi_k(x)$  respectively then the energy eigenvalues of  $\bar{v}(y)$  are given by

$$\bar{E}_k = -E_{m-1-k}, \quad \bar{\psi}_k(y) = \psi_{m-1-k}(ix)$$
 (3.1)

Under this anti-isospectral transformation,  $x \longrightarrow ix \equiv \theta$ , it is easily seen that the Hamiltonian (2.1) goes over to

$$H = p^{2} + \left[a\cos(2\theta) - iM\right]^{2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{\sin^{2}(\theta)} + \frac{l(l+1)}{\cos^{2}(\theta)},$$
(3.2)

with -1 < l < 0. In this case  $U(x) = U(x + \pi)$ . This complex Hamiltonian is invariant under combined Parity  $[x \longrightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} - x]$  and Time reversal  $[t \longrightarrow -t \& i \longrightarrow -i]$ . Explicit QES solutions can be obtained from the solutions of hyperbolic case discussed in detail in section 2.1 by using the anti-isospectral transformation as given in Eq. (3.1). One can easily construct the BD polynomials and their properties for this case by following the methods outlined in section 2.2.

## IV. REAL QES SYSTEMS

Before completing this paper, it may be worthwhile to point out that, starting from the Hermitian, QES, DSHG potential  $V(x) = [a \cosh(2x) - M]^2$ , one can add several perturbing terms and the resulting Hamiltonian are all examples of QES systems. In this section, we consider three such perturbing terms.

Case I: Perturbation term,  $V_1 = \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)}$  with -1 < l < 0.

The combined perturbed system is described by the Hamiltonian,

$$H_I = p^2 + \left[a\cosh(2x) - M\right]^2 + \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)},$$
 (4.1)

We show that for integral values of M-l-1 or M+l, this is a QES problem and one can obtain p QES eigenstates in case M=l+1+p+s or M=-l+p+s respectively, where p=1,2,3,... and s=0,1.

We substitute

$$\psi(x) = e^{-\frac{a}{2}\cosh(2x)}\phi(x), \qquad (4.2)$$

in the Schroödinger equation  $H\psi = E\psi$  with H as given by Eq. (4.1) and obtain

$$\phi''(x) - 2a\sinh(2x)\phi'(x) + [(E - M^2 - a^2) + 2(M - 1)a\cosh(2x) - \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)}]\phi(x) = 0$$
(4.3)

On further substituting

$$\phi = \left[\sinh(x)\right]^{\alpha}\eta\,,\tag{4.4}$$

we obtain

$$\eta''(x) + 2[\alpha \coth(x) - a \sinh(2x)]\eta'(x) + [E - M^2 - a^2]$$
  
+\alpha^2 - 2(M - 1)a + 4(M - \alpha - 1)a \cosh^2(x)]\eta(x) = 0 (4.5)

provided

$$\alpha(\alpha - 1) = l(l+1). \tag{4.6}$$

Eq.(4.6) implies either  $\alpha = l+1$  or  $\alpha = -l$ . We first consider  $\alpha = l+1$  and then it is easy to see that Eq. (4.5) with  $\alpha = l+1$  has p QES solutions in case M = l+1+p+s where s = 0 or s = 1. In particular the solutions are of the form

$$\eta = [\cosh(x)]^s \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n [\cosh^2(x)]^n,$$
(4.7)

where s=0 in case M=l+2p while s=1 in case M=l+2p+1. Few low lying solutions are

$$M = l + 2$$
,  $\eta = constant$ ,  $E = a^2 + 2a(l+1) + 2l + 3$ ,  
 $M = l + 3$ ,  $\eta = \cosh(x)$ ,  $E = a^2 + 2al + 2l + 5$ , (4.8)

$$M = l + 4, \quad E = y + a^2 + 3(2l + 5) + 2(l + 3)a,$$
  

$$\eta = A \cosh^2(x) + B, \quad y = -2(l + 2 + 2a) \pm 2\sqrt{(l + 2 + 2a)^2 - 4a}.$$
 (4.9)

$$M = l + 5, \quad E = y + a^2 + 8(l + 3) + 2(l + 4)a,$$
  

$$\eta = A \cosh^3(x) + B \cosh(x),$$
  

$$y = -(4l + 9 + 8a) \pm 2\sqrt{(l + 2a)^2 + 3(2l + 3)}.$$
(4.10)

The results for  $\alpha = -l$  are immediately obtained from above by replacing everywhere l by -l-1.

By making the substitution  $\cosh^2(x) = t$  in Eq. (4.5), one can show that the corresponding Bender-Dunne polynomials satisfy three term recursion relation.

Case II: Perturbation term,  $V_2 = -\frac{l(l+1)}{\cosh^2(x)}$ 

The Hamiltonian of the system is thus given by

$$H_2 = p^2 + \left[a\cosh(2x) - M\right]^2 - \frac{l(l+1)}{\cosh^2(x)},$$
 (4.11)

where l is any real number. We again show that for integral values of M-l-1 or M+l, this is a QES problem and one can obtain p QES eigenstates in case either M=l+1+p+s or if M=-l+p+s respectively, where p=1,2,3,... and s=0,1.

We substitute

$$\psi(x) = e^{-\frac{a}{2}\cosh(2x)}\cosh^{\alpha}(x)\eta, \tag{4.12}$$

in the Schrödinger equation  $H_2\psi=E\psi$  with  $H_2$  as given by Eq. (2.14) to obtain

$$\eta''(x) + 2[\alpha \tanh(x) - a \sinh(2x)]\eta'(x) + [E - M^2 - a^2]$$
  
+2a(2\alpha - M + 1) + \alpha^2 + 4(M - \alpha - 2)a \cosh^2(x)]\eta(x) = 0, (4.13)

provided

$$\alpha(\alpha - 1) = l(l+1). \tag{4.14}$$

This implies  $\alpha = l+1$  or  $\alpha = -l$ . let us consider first,  $\alpha = l+1$ . It is easy to see that Eq. (4.13) with  $\alpha = l+1$  has p qes solutions in case M = l+1+p+s where s=0 or s=1. In particular the solutions are of the form

$$\eta = \left[\sinh(x)\right]^s \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \left[\sinh^2(x)\right]^n, \tag{4.15}$$

where s=0 in case M=l+2p while s=1 in case M=l+2p+1. Few low lying solutions are

$$M = l + 2$$
,  $\eta = constant$ ,  $E = a^2 - 2a(l+1) + 2l + 3$ ,  
 $M = l + 3$ ,  $eta = \sinh(x)$ ,  $E = a^2 - 2al + 2l + 5$ , (4.16)

$$M = l + 4, \quad E = y + a^2 + 3(2l + 5) - 2a(l - 1),$$
  

$$\eta = A \cosh^2(x) + B,$$
  

$$y = -2(l + 2 + 2a) \pm 2\sqrt{(l + 2 + 2a)^2 - 4a(2l + 3)}.$$
(4.17)

$$M = l + 5, \quad E = y + a^2 + 8(l + 3) - 2a(l - 2),$$
  

$$\eta = A \sinh^3(x) + B \sinh(x),$$
  

$$y = -(4l + 9 + 4a) \pm 2\sqrt{(l - 2a)^2 + 3(2l + 3)}.$$
(4.18)

It is easy to convince oneself that all the above solutions are still solutions with replacement of l by -l-1 everywhere.

The three term recursion relations for the associate polynomials is obtained in this case by making the substitution  $\sinh^2(x) = t$  in Eq. (4.13).

Case III: Perturbation term, 
$$V_3 = \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)} - \frac{g(g+1)}{\cosh^2(x)}$$
.

We now show that it is still a QES problem even if the perturbation is the sum of the two perturbations considered in Case I and Case II, i.e. consider the Hamiltonian

$$H_3 = p^2 + \left[a\cosh(2x) - M\right]^2 + \frac{l(l+1)}{\sinh^2(x)} - \frac{g(g+1)}{\cosh^2(x)},\tag{4.19}$$

where -1 < l < 0 so that the singularity at x = 0 is not strong enough. We show that for positive integral values of either (M - l - g - 1)/2 or (M + l + g + 1)/2 or (M + l - g)/2 or (M - l + g)/2, this is a QES problem and one can obtain p QES eigenstates in case either M = l + g + 2p + 1 or M = -l - g + 2p - 1 or M = -l + g + 2p or M = l - g + 2p, where p = 1, 2, 3, ...

We substitute

$$\psi(x) = e^{-\frac{a}{2}\cosh(2x)}[\cosh(x)]^{\alpha}[\sinh(x)]^{\beta}\eta, \qquad (4.20)$$

in the Schroödinger equation  $H_3\psi = E\psi$  with  $H_3$  as given by Eq. (4.19) we find that QES solutions exist only when  $\alpha = g+1, -g$  and  $\beta = l+1, -l$ . On choosing  $\alpha = g+1, \beta = l+1$ , we obtain

$$\eta''(x) + 2[(l+1)\coth(x) + (g+1)\tanh(x) - a\sinh(2x)]\eta'(x) + [y+z\cosh^{2}(x)]\eta(x) = 0,$$
(4.21)

where

$$y = E - M^2 - a^2 + (l+g+2)^2 + 2a(2g-M+3), \quad z = 4a(M-l-g-3).$$
 (4.22)

It is easy to see that Eq. (4.21) has p QES solutions in case M=l+g+2p+1 with p=1,2,3,... In particular the solutions are of the form

$$\eta = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n[\cosh^2(x)]^n, \qquad (4.23)$$

in case M = l + g + 2p + 1. Two of the low lying solutions are

$$M = l + g + 3$$
,  $\eta = constant$ ,  $E = a^2 - 2a(2g + 3) + 2l + 2g + 5$ , (4.24)

$$M = l + g + 5$$
,  $\eta = A \cosh^2(x) + B$ ,  
 $y = -2(l + g + 3 + 2a) \pm 2\sqrt{(l + g + 3 + 2a)^2 - 4a(2g + 3)}$ . (4.25)

The results for the remaining three cases are immediately obtained from here by replacing (l, g) with (-l - 1, -g - 1), or with (-l - 1, g) or with (l, -g - 1).

#### V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have shown that the known QES DSHG (and hence DSG) systems (both Hermitian and complex PT-invariant one) can be further enlarged by adding perturbations and still it continues to be a QES system. It will be interesting to look at other QES examples and obtain new QES systems by adding suitable perturbating terms.

<sup>[1]</sup> C.M. Bender and S. Boettcher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 5243 (1998).

<sup>[2]</sup> Ali Mostafazadeh, arXiv:0810.5643, and references therein.

<sup>[3]</sup> C.M. Bender and S. Boettcher, J. Phys. A31, L273 (1998); C.M. Bender, S. Boettcher, and P.N. Meisinger, J. Math. Phys. 40, 2210 (1999); C.M. Bender, S. Boettcher, H.F. Jones and Van M. Savage, quant-ph/9906057; C.M. Bender and G. V. Dunne, J. Math. Phys. 40, 4616 (1999); C.M. Bender, G.V. Dunne and P.N. Meisinger, Phys. Lett A252, 272 (1999); C.M. Bender, K.A. Milton and P.N. Meisinger J. Math. Phys 40 2201, (1999); C.M. Bender and K.A. Milton, hep-th/9802184; F.M. Fernandez, R. Guardiola, J. Ros and M. Znojil, J. Phys. A32, 3105 (1999); M. Znojil, J. Phys. A32, 4563 (1999); Phys. Lett. A264, 108 (1999); F. Cannata, G. Junker and J. Trost, Phys. Lett. A246, 219 (1998); B. Bagchi and R. Roychoudhury, J. Phys. A33, L1 (2000).

<sup>[4]</sup> B. Basu-Malik & B. P. Mandal, Phys. Lett. A284, 231 (2001); B. Basu-Malik, T. Bhat-tacharyya & B. P. Mandal, Mod. Phys. Lett. A20, 543 (2005); B. Basu-Malik, T. Bhat-tacharyya, A. Kundu & B. P. Mandal, Czech. J. Phys 54, 5 (2004); B. P. Mandal, Mod Phys. Lett. A20, 655 (2005).

- [5] A. Ushveridze, *Quasi-Exactly Solvable Models in Quantum Mechanics*, Inst. of Physics Publishing, Bristol, (1994), and references therein.
- [6] C.M. Bender and A. Turbiner, Phys. Lett. A173, 442 (1993).
- [7] P. Assis and A. Fring, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 42, 015203 (2009).
- [8] A. Khare and B. P. Mandal, Phys. Lett. **A272** (2000) 53.
- [9] A. Khare and B.P. Mandal, J. Math. Phys. **39**, 3476 (1998).
- [10] Y. Brihaye, A. Nininahazwe & B. P. Mandal, J. Phys. A40, 13063(2007).
- [11] C. M. Bender and G. V. Dunne, J. Math. Phys. **37** (1996) 6.
- [12] F. Finkel, A. Gonzaler-lopez and M.A. Rodriguez, J. Math. Phys. 40 (1999).
- [13] A. Krajewska, A. Ushveridze and Z. Walczak, Mod. Phys. Lett. A 12 (1997) 1225.